

B I R D C A L E N D A R 1926 22nd Y E A R

B u l l e t i n N o. 2

April 1 - 30

The cold stormy weather of March continued with little abatement far into April; and as a result, migration this year has remained from a week to three weeks behind what it is in normal seasons. In the case of certain birds of which one individual remained all winter because of [a] certain convenient feeding-box, or one migrant [which] apparently strayed into this region too early, - as reported in Bulletin No. 1, - great numbers have been observed since the completion and posting of the first report. For example, Brown Creepers, Field Sparrows, Flickers, and Phoebe have been present with us in, one might say, multitudes since the middle of April, though comparatively few were reported before the end of the first week in April.

In addition to the March arrivals of migratory birds reported in Bulletin No. 1, the following records were sent by Mr. F.N. Shankland of Willoughby, Ohio, too late for the first report: Song Sparrow, March 14; Killdeer, March 21; Cowbird, March 21; Meadowlark, March 21; Bronzed Grackle, March 22; Herring Gull, March 22; Phoebe, March 25; Redwinged Blackbird, March 27; Flicker, March 27.

The most unusual migrant reported in Bulletin No. 1 was perhaps the Night Hawk for March 24, which was, however, reported for three of the five years preceding 1926, still earlier; for 1921, March 20 and 25; 1922, March 14 and 29; 1923, March 19 and 30; and 1924, May 4; 1925, April 25.

The most interesting and unusual bird for Cleveland and vicinity, recorded in Bulletin No. 2, is probably the Eared Grebe, which, according to Chapman, may hardly be counted among the birds of Eastern North America and is designated by him as "casual in Missouri, Indiana, and Ontario". The identification, however, was made in this case by several experienced observers, so there can be little reasonable doubt of the accuracy of the record.

Professor Herrick sent the following interesting notes about the Vermilion eagle:

Eagle - American or Bald - Incubation Period as determined for 1926 March 18 - April 21, or five weeks, with probably error of not over two days either way.

Nest-Building Operations as observed this season:

February 1 - A corn-stalk (carrying incidentally ears of corn) taken to nest, as noticed by Mr. Ridsen, who was then working in his field, shucking his last season's Crop.

The Eagle came within two rods of where he was standing and seized the stalk in his talons.

February 1 - 17 (inclusive) - Work on the nest continued sporadically. These operations of the eagles were interrupted by those of Messrs. Shuer Brothers, who began work on Steel Tower No. 2, fifty feet from the Eagles' nest-tree. This work continued, as the weather permitted, for twelve working days, or until March 6 (inclusive).

The eagles remained in the vicinity and were seen daily. On March 7, the day after the workmen left, they resumed their work and were busy for about a week in bringing sticks, stubble and grass. Some of the latter was added on March 16, and in gathering this they would fly low and rake it up from the ground with their talons. On March 17, both eagles were seen away from the nest together; but from the 18th of March onward to the time of hatching of the eaglet, the nest was never left for more than a few minutes at a time, and never without covering the eggs.

Male and female share equally in incubation, as in nest building and in care of the young. They have a regular routine, sitting in shifts of one and one-half to two hours. One guards (when not away for food) while the other sits on the eggs, and the guarding bird always occupies a definite perch – about 100 feet from the nest. Only two such perches were in use, though I cannot say that the same bird always uses the same perch. They seemed to shift perches.

These are some of the data which we have gathered recently at Vermilion.”

The following list includes several winter birds observed by Mr. Shankland and not reported in Bulletin No. 1.

43. Pileated Woodpecker; January 2, Mr. F.N. Shankland, Willoughby.
44. Snow Bunting; February 10, Mr. Shankland, Willoughby.
45. Horned Lark; February 14, Mr. Shankland (flock seen).
46. American Goldfinch; March 27, Mr. Shankland, Willoughby; April 4, Dean Bailey, Lake View; April 26, Professor Finfrock, Hudson.
47. Red-shouldered Hawk; April 4, Mr. Shankland, Willoughby; April 24, Professor Finfrock, Jopling's Woods.
48. Rusty Blackbird; April 4, Mr. Shankland, Willoughby.
49. Marsh Hawk; April 4, Mr. Shankland, Willoughby.
50. Bufflehead Duck; April 5, Wade Park, one seen on pond.
51. Vesper Sparrow; April 9, several seen and heard on Painesville-Chardon Road; April 10, Mr. Shankland, Willoughby; April 17, Professor Finfrock, et al, Fairport.
52. Bonaparte Gull; April 10, Mr. Shankland, Willoughby; several at Fairport, same date.
53. Pied-billed Grebe; April 10, Mr. Shankland et al, Mentor Marsh.
54. Red-breasted Merganser; April 10, Professor Finfrock et al, Mentor Marsh; April 17, same observers, Fairport.
55. Black Duck; April 10, Mr. Shankland, et al, Mentor Marsh.
56. Blue-winged Teal; April 10, Mr. Shankland, et al, Mentor Marsh.
57. Spotted Sandpiper; April 10, Professor Finfrock et al, Mentor Marsh.
58. Purple Martin; April 10, Professor Finfrock et al, Mentor Marsh; April 14, Donald Hulme, Shaker Lakes; April 20, Professor Herrick, Noble Road; April 24, Mrs. Dr. Ruedy, Noble Road; April 26, Hudson; April 30, Wade Park (several).

59. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; April 10, Mr. Shankland et al, Willoughby; April 17, same observers and same place; April 26, Mrs. Dr. Ruedy, Noble Road.
60. Cedar Waxwing; April 10, Mr. Shankland, Willoughby; April 16, Professor Finfrock, 3186 Oak Road.
61. Winter Wren; April 10, Professor Finfrock et al, Willoughby; April 17, same observers, Fairport.
62. Swamp Sparrow; April, Mr. Shankland et al, Mentor Marsh; April 17, same observers and place.
63. Semipalmated Plover; April 10, Professor Finfrock, Mentor Marsh; April 18, Dean Bailey, Lake View.
64. Belted Kingfisher; April 10, Mr. Shankland, Willoughby; one seen in Painesville on the same day.
65. Lincoln Sparrow; April 10, Professor Finfrock et al, Mentor Marsh; April 17, same observers and place.
66. White-winged Scoter; April 10, Professor Finfrock, Mentor Marsh.
67. Cooper's Hawk; April 11, Mr. Shankland, Willoughby; April 17, Professor Finfrock et al, Mentor Marsh.
68. Hermit Thrush; April 11, Dean Bailey, Lake View; April 22, Wade Park; April 24, Bedford Glens, and Professor Finfrock, Jopling's Woods.
69. Red-breasted Nuthatch; April 11, Dean Bailey, Lake View.
70. Grasshopper Sparrow; April 17, Mr. Shankland et al, Mentor Marsh.
71. Solitary Sandpiper; April 17, Mr. Shankland, et al, Mentor Marsh.
72. Loon; April 17, Mr. Shankland et al, Fairport.
73. Ruddy Duck; April 17, Mr. Shankland et al, Fairport.
74. American Eared Grebe; April 17, Mr. Shankland et al, Fairport.
75. Towhee; April 17, Mr. Shankland et al, Fairport.
76. Canada Goose; April 17, Mr. Shankland et al, Fairport.
77. Canvasback Duck; April 17, Professor Finfrock et al, Fairport.
78. American Coot; April 17, Professor Finfrock et al, Fairport.
79. Common Tern; April 17, Mr. Shankland, Mentor Marsh.
80. Horned Grebe; April 17, Mr. Shankland et al, Fairport; April 24, Mr. Wallace Baker, Mentor Marsh.
81. American Merganser; April 17, Professor Finfrock et al, Fairport.
82. Veery; April 17, Professor Finfrock, 3186 Oak Road; April 24, Mr. Wallace Baker, Mentor Headland; April 25, Dean Bailey, Lake View; April 28, Mrs. Marshall, Bellflower Road.
83. Purple Sandpiper (?); April 17, Mentor Marsh.
84. Red-headed Duck; April 17, Professor Finfrock, Fairport.
85. Golden-eyed Duck; April 17, Mr. Shankland et al, Fairport.
86. House Wren; April 18, Dean Bailey, Lake View.
87. White-throated Sparrow; April 22, Professor Finfrock, 3186 Oak Road; April 28, Mrs. Marshall, Bellflower Road; April 30, Wade Park (several).
88. Ruby-crowned Kinglet; April 22, Wade Park (several); April 26, Mrs. Doctor Ruedy, Noble Road.
89. Ring-necked Duck (6); April 24, Mr. Wallace Baker, Mentor Marsh.
90. Myrtle Warbler; April 24, Professor Finfrock, Jopling's Woods; May 6, several, Wade Park.
91. Northern Water Thrush; April 24, Bedford Glens.
92. Louisiana Water Thrush; April 24, Professor Finfrock, Jopling's Woods.

93. Brown Thrasher; April 25, Dean Bailey, Lake View; April 27, Professor Herrick, Vermilion; April 28, Mrs. Marshall, Bellflower Road; May 4, Dean Smith (2), Bellflower Road.
94. Chimney Swift; April 25, Dean Bailey, Lake View.
95. Prairie Horned Lark; April 26, Professor Finfrock, Hudson.
96. Barn Swallow; April 24, Professor Finfrock, Jopling's Woods; April 26 Hudson; April 27, Professor Herrick, Vermilion; April 30, several, Wade Park.
97. Chipping Sparrow; April 30, Wade Park.
98. Black-throated Green Warbler (young male); April 30, Wade Park.